GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1945
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2007
PROCUREMENT OF COTTON
Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Gawali Smt. Bhavana Pundlikrao

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government is aware that cotton ginning work has not been started in the collection centres of the districts of Maharashtra and as a result the purchasing of cotton at the said centres has temporarily been discontinued;

(b) if so, whether the farmers are waiting at weaving centres for weighing and purchasing of their cotton by these centres and facing difficulties;

(c) if so, whether the Government has taken up the matter with the State Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a): The cotton ginning work got started in all the hired G&P factories simultaneous with purchases in the State of Maharashtra. During the season 2006-07, the pace of arrival was faster as compared to previous year. The imposition of power cut in the State had affected the processing work during the peak of the season. However, there had been no occasion of discontinuing purchases due to delayed ginning work. The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) has purchased 26.61 lakh quintals of kapas in the State through a network of 53 procurement centers. Nearly 80% kapas purchased by CCI under MSP operations has been processed.

(b): Purchase of cotton and weighment thereof at most of the places had been carried out without any difficulty barring few places and concerned Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC) were requested to regulate the arrivals in market yards to avoid hardships to the cotton farmers.

(c) & (d): Ministry of Textiles has taken up the matter with the Principal Secretary (Energy), Government of Maharashtra for exempting the ginning and pressing factories from power cuts and to direct the market committees to hold auctions on daily basis and if need be, the market committees should regulate the arrivals also. Government of Maharashtra, has informed that wherever possible the distribution utility has made some arrangement to restrict the load shedding hours of some ginning & pressing factories to minimum possible level. It has also been suggested that if ginning & pressing factories agree to have dedicated feeders, their problem may get reduced considerably.